

# LAB

As a man had a right to all he could employ his labour upon, so he had no temptation to labour for more than he could make use of. *Locke.*

3. To move with difficulty.  
The stone that labours up the hill,  
Mocking the labourer's toil, returning still,  
Is love. *Granville.*

4. To be diseased with. [*Morbo laborare*, Latin.]  
They abound with horse,  
Of which one want our camp doth only labour,  
And I have found 'em coming. *Ben. Johnson's Catiline.*  
I was called to another, who in childhood laboured of an ulcer in her left hip. *Wifeman.*

5. To be in distress; to be pressed.  
To this infernal lake the fury flies,  
Here hides her hated head, and frees the lab'ring skies. *Dryd.*  
Trumpets and drums shall fright her from the Throne,  
As sounding cymbals aid the lab'ring moon. *Dryd. Aur.*  
This exercise will call down the favour of heaven upon you, to remove those afflictions you now labour under from you. *Wake's Preparation for Death.*

6. To be in child-birth; to be in travail.  
There lay a log unlighted on the earth,  
When she was lab'ring in the throws of birth;  
For th' unborn chief the fatal flitters came,  
And rais'd it up, and tofs'd it on the flame. *Dryd. Ovid.*  
Here, like some furious prophet, Pindar rode,  
And seem'd to labour with th' inspiring God. *Pope.*  
He is so touch'd with the memory of her benevolence and protection, that his soul labours for an expression enough to represent it. *Notes on the Odyssey.*

To LABOUR. *v. a.*  
1. To work at; to move with difficulty; to form with labour; to prosecute with effect.  
To use brevity, and avoid much labouring of the work, is to be granted to him that will make an abridgment. *2. Mac.*  
The matter of the ceremonies had wrought, for the most part, only upon light-headed, weak men, whose satisfaction was not to be laboured for. *Clarendon.*  
The pains of famish'd Tantalus shall feel,  
And Sisyphus that labours up the hill,  
The rowling rock in vain, and curst Ixion's wheel. *Dryd.*  
Had you requir'd my helpful hand,  
Th' artificer and art you might command,  
To labour arms for Troy. *Dryden's Æneis.*  
An eager desire to know something concerning him, has occasioned mankind to labour the point under these disadvantages, and turn on all hands to see if there were any thing left which might have the least appearance of information.

2. To beat; to labour.  
Take, shepherd, take a plant of stubborn oak,  
And labour him with many a sturdy stroak. *Dryden's Virg.*

LABOURER. *n. f.* [*labourer*, French.]  
1. One who is employed in coarse and toilsome work.  
If a state run most to noblemen and gentlemen, and that the husbandmen be but as their work-folks and labourers, you may have a good cavalry, but never good stable foot. *Bacon.*  
The sun but seem'd the lab'rer of the year,  
Each waxing moon supply'd her wat'ry store,  
To swell those tides, which from the line did bear  
Their brimful vessels to the Belgian shore. *Dryden.*  
Labourers and idle persons, children and striplings, old men and young men, must have divers diets. *Arbuth. on Aliments.*  
Not balmy sleep to lab'ers faint with pain,  
Not show'rs to larks, or sun-shine to the bee,  
Are half so charming, as thy fight to me. *Pope's Autumn.*  
Yet hence the poor are cloth'd, the hungry fed,  
Health to himself, and to his infants bread,  
The lab'rer bears. *Pope, Ep. iv. l. 167.*  
The prince cannot say to the merchant, I have no need of thee; nor the merchant to the labourer, I have no need of thee.

2. One who takes pains in any employment.  
Sir, I am a true labourer; I earn that I eat; get that I wear; owe no man hate; envy no man's happiness. *Shakesp.*  
The stone that labours up the hill,  
Mocking the lab'rer's toil, returning still,  
Is love. *Granville.*

LABOURSOME. *adj.* [*from labour*.] Made with great labour and diligence.  
Forget  
Your labour'some and dainty trims, wherein  
You made great Jove angry. *Shakesp. Cymbeline.*  
He hath, my lord, by labour'some petition,  
Wrung from me my slow leave. *Shakesp. Hamlet.*  
LABRA. *n. f.* [*Spanish*.] A lip.  
Word of denial in thy labras here;  
Word of denial, froth and foam thou liest. *Shakesp.*

LABYRINTH. *n. f.* [*labyrinthus*, Latin.] A maze; a place formed with inextricable windings.  
Suffolk, stay;

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Thou may'st not wander in that labyrinth;  
There Minotaurs, and ugly treasons lurk. *Shakesp.*  
Words, which would tear  
The tender labyrinth of a maid's soft ear. *Donne.*  
My clamorous tear  
The ear's soft labyrinth, and cleft the air. *Sandy's Paraph.*  
The ear of Essex had not proceeded with his accustomed wariness and skill; but run into labyrinths, from whence he could not disentangle himself. *Clarendon, b. viii.*  
My soul is on her journey; do not now  
Divert, or lead her back, to lose herself  
I th' maze and winding labyrinths o' th' world. *Denham.*

LAC. *n. f.*  
Lac is usually distinguished by the name of a gum, but improperly, because it is inflammable and not soluble in water. We have three sorts of it, which are all the product of the same tree. 1. The stick lac. 2. The seed lac. 3. The shell lac. Authors leave us uncertain whether this drug belongs to the animal or the vegetable kingdom. *Hill.*

LACE. *n. f.* [*lacet*, French; *laqueus*, Latin.]  
1. A string; a cord.  
There the fond fly entangled, struggled long,  
Himself to free thereout; but all in vain;  
For striving more, the more in laces throng  
Himself he tied, and wrapt his wings twain  
In liny snares, the subtil loops among. *Spenser.*

2. A snare; a gin.  
The king had snared been in love's strong lace. *Fairfax.*

3. A platted string, with which women fasten their clothes.  
O! cut my lace, lest my heart crackling, it  
Break too. *Shakesp. Winter's Tale.*  
Doll ne'er was call'd to cut her lace,  
Or throw cold water in her face. *Swift.*

4. Ornaments of fine thread curiously woven.  
Our English dames are much given to the wearing of coll'ly laces; and, if they be brought from Italy, they are in great esteem. *Bacon's Advice to Villiers.*

5. Textures of thread, with gold or silver.  
He wears a stuff, whose thread is coarse and round,  
But trimm'd with curious lace. *Herbert.*

6. Sugar. A cant word.  
If haply he the sect pursues,  
That read and comment upon news;  
He takes up their mysterious face,  
He drinks his coffee without lace. *Prior.*

To LACE. *v. a.* [*from the noun*.]  
1. To fasten with a string run through eilet holes.  
I caus'd a fomentation to be made, and put on a laced sock, by which the weak parts were strengthened. *Wifeman.*  
At this, for new replies he did not stay,  
But lac'd his crested helm, and strode away.  
These glittering spoils, now made the victor's gain,  
He to his body suits; but suits in vain:  
Mefapus' helm he finds among the rest. *Dryd. Æneis.*  
And laces on, and wears the waving crest  
Like Mrs. Primly's great belly; the may lace it down before, but it burnishes on her hips. *Congr. Way of the World.*  
When Jenny's stays are newly lac'd,  
Fair Alma plays about her waist. *Prior.*

2. To adorn with gold or silver textures sewed on.  
It is but a night-gown in respect of yours; cleath of gold and coats, and lac'd with silver. *Shakesp. Much ado about Not.*

3. To embellish with variegations.  
Look, love, what envious streaks  
Do lace the feverish clouds in yonder East;  
Night's candles are burnt out, and jocund day  
Stands tip-toe on the misty mountains tops. *Shakesp.*  
Then clap four slices of plaster on't,  
That, lac'd with bits of rustick, makes a front. *Pope.*

4. To beat; whether from the form which *L'Estrange* uses, or by corruption of *lash*.  
Go you, and find me out a man that has no curiosity at all, or I'll lace your coat for ye. *L'Estrange.*

LACED MUTTON. An old word for a whore.  
Ay, Sir, I, a lost mutton, gave your letter to her a lac'd mutton, and she gave me nothing for my labour. *Shakesp.*

LACEMAN. *n. f.* [*lace* and *man*.] One who deals in lace.  
I met with a nonjuror, engaged with a laceman, whether the late French king was more like Augustus Cæsar, or Nero. *Addison's Spectator, N. 404.*

LACERABLE. *adj.* [*from lacerate*.] Such as may be torn.  
Since the lungs are obliged to a perpetual commerce with the air, they must necessarily lie open to great damages, because of their thin and lacerable compoſure. *Harvey.*

To LACERATE. *v. a.* [*lacerare*, Latin.] To tear; to rend; to separate by violence.  
And my ions lacerate and rip up, viper like, the womb that brought them forth. *Howell's England's Tears.*  
The heat breaks through the water, so as to lacerate and lift up great bubbles too heavy for the air to buoy up, and causeth boiling. *Derham's Physico-Theology.*

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Here lacerated friendship claims a tear. *Va. of human Wishes.*

LACERATION. *n. f.* [*from lacerate*.] The act of tearing or rending; the breach made by tearing.  
The effects are, extension of the great vessels, compression of the lesser, and lacerations upon small caues. *Arbuth.*

LACERATIVE. *adj.* [*from lacerate*.] Tearing; having the power to tear.  
Some depend upon the intemperament of the part ulcerated, others upon the continual afflux of lacerative humours. *Harvey on Consumptions.*

LACHRYMAL. *adj.* [*lachrymal*, French.] Generating tears.  
It is of an exquisite sense, that, upon any touch, the tears might be squeezed from the lachrymal glands, to wash and clean it. *Cheyne's Philosophical Principles.*

LACHRYMARY. *adj.* [*lachryma*, Latin.] Containing tears.  
How many dreses are there for each particular deity? what a variety of shapes in the ancient urns, lamps, and lachrymary vessels. *Addison's Travels through Italy.*

LACHRYMATION. *n. f.* [*from lachryma*.] The act of weeping, or shedding tears.

LACHRYMATORY. *n. f.* [*lachrymatore*, French.] A vessel in which tears are gathered to the honour of the dead.

LACINIATED. *adj.* [*from lacinia*, Lat.] Adorned with fringes and borders.

To LACK. *v. a.* [*lacken*, to lessen, Dutch.] To want; to need; to be without.  
Every good and holy desire, though it lack the form, hath notwithstanding in itself the substance, and with him the force of prayer, who regardeth the very meanings, groans, and sighs of the heart. *Hooker, b. v. l. 348.*  
A hand wherein thou shalt eat bread without scarceness; thou shalt not lack any thing in it. *Deut. viii. 9.*  
One day we hope thou shalt bring back,  
Dear Bolingbroke, the justice that we lack. *Daniel.*  
Intreat they may; authority they lack. *Daniel.*

To LACK. *v. n.*  
1. To be in want.  
The lions do lack and suffer hunger. *Common Prayer.*

2. To be wanting.  
Peradventure there shall lack five of the fifty righteous; wilt thou destroy all the city for lack of five? *Gen. viii. 28.*  
There was nothing lacking to them: David recovered all. *1 Sam. xxx. 19.*  
That which was lacking on your part, they have supplied. *1 Cor. xvi. 17.*

LACK. *n. f.* [*from the verb*.]  
1. Want; need; failure.  
In the scripture there neither wanteth any thing, the lack whereof might deprive us of life. *Hooker, b. i. p. 41.*  
Many that are not mad  
Have sure more lack of reason. *Shakesp. Meas. for Meas.*  
He was not able to keep that place three days, for lack of victuals. *Knolles's History of the Turks.*  
The trenchant blade, Toledo trusty,  
For want of fighting was grown rusty,  
And eat into itself, for lack  
Of somebody to hew and hack. *Hudibras, p. i. c. 1.*

2. Lack, whether noun or verb, is now almost obsolete.

LACUBRAIN. *n. f.* [*lack* and *brain*.] One that wants wit.  
What a lacubrain is this? Our plot is as good a plot as ever was laid. *Shakesp. Henry IV. p. i.*

LACKER. *n. f.* A kind of varnish, which, spread upon a white substance, exhibits a gold colour.

To LACKER. *v. a.* [*from the noun*.] To do over with lacker.  
What shook the stage, and made the people stare?  
Cato's long wing, flower'd gown, and lacker'd chair. *Pope.*

LACKNEY. *n. f.* [*laqueus*, French.] An attending servant; a foot-boy.  
They would have made me  
Wait else at door: a fellow counsellor,  
Mong boys, and grooms, and lackeys! *Shakesp. Hen. VIII.*  
Though his youthful blood be fir'd with wine,  
He's cautious to avoid the coach and six,  
And on the lackeys will no quarrel fix. *Dryden's Juvenal.*  
Lackeys were never so faucy and pragmatical as they are now-a-days. *Addison's Spectator, N. 481.*

To LACKNEY. *v. a.* [*from the noun*.] To attend servilely.  
I know not whether Milton has used this word very properly.  
This common body,  
Like to a vagabond flag upon the stream,  
Goes to, and back, lacking the varying tide,  
To rot itself with motion. *Shakesp. Ant. and Cleopatra.*  
So dear to heav'n is faintly chaffity,  
That when a soul is found sincerely so,  
A thousand liveried angels lackey her,  
Driving far off each thing of sin and guilt. *Milton.*

To LACKNEY. *v. n.* To act as a foot-boy; to pay servile attendance.  
Oft have I servants seen on horſes ride,  
The free and noble lackey by their side. *Sandy's Par.*  
Our Italian translator of the Æneis is a foot poet; he

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lackey by the side of Virgil, but never mounts behind him. *Dryd. Dea. Æn.*

LACKLINEN. *adj.* [*lack* and *linen*.] Wanting shirts.  
I scorn you, scurvy companion; what? your poor, bafe, rascally, cheating, lacklinen mate; away, you mouldy rogue, away; I'm made for your master. *Shakesp. Henry IV.*

LACKLUSTRE. *adj.* [*lack* and *lustre*.] Wanting brightness.  
And then he drew a dial from his poke,  
And looking on it with lacklustre eye,  
Says very wilely, it is ten a clock. *Shakesp.*

LACONICK. *adj.* [*laconicus*, Lat. *laconique*, Fr.] Short; brief; from *Lacones*, the Spartans, who used few words.  
I grow laconick even beyond laconicifm; for sometimes I return only yes, or no, to questionary or petitionary epistles of half a yard long. *Pope to Swift.*

LACONISM. *n. f.* [*laconisme*, French; *laconismus*, Latin.] A concise stile: called by *Pope laconicifm*. See LACONICK.  
As the language of the face is universal, so it is very comprehensive: no laconifm can reach it. It is the shorthand of the mind, and crowds a great deal in a little room. *Collier of the Abbey.*

LACONICALLY. *adv.* [*from laconick*.] Briefly; concisely.  
Alexander Nequam, a man of great learning, and desirous to enter into religion there, writ to the abbot laconically. *Candian's Remains.*

LACTARY. *adj.* [*lactis*, Lat.] Milky; full of juice like milk.  
From lactary, or milky plants, which have a white and lacteous juice dispersed through every part, there arise flowers blue and yellow. *Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. vi. c. 10.*

LACTARY. *n. f.* [*lactarium*, Latin.] A dairy house.

LACTATION. *n. f.* [*lactio*, Latin.] The act or time of giving suck.

LACTEAL. *adj.* [*from lac*, Latin.] Conveying chyle.  
As the food passes, the chyle, which is the nutritive part, is separated from the excrementitious by the lacteal veins; and from thence conveyed into the blood. *Locke.*

LACTEAL. *n. f.* The vessel that conveys chyle.  
The mouths of the lacteals may permit aliment, acrimonious or not, sufficiently attenuated, to enter in people of lax constitutions, whereas their sphincters will shut against them in such as have strong fibres. *Arbuthnot on Aliments.*

LACTEOUS. *adj.* [*lacteus*, Latin.]  
1. Milky.  
Though we leave out the lacteous circle, yet are there more by four than Philo mentions. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

2. Lacteal; conveying chyle.  
The lungs are suitable for respiration, and the lacteous vessels for the reception of the chyle. *Bentley's Sermon.*

LACTESCENCE. *n. f.* [*lactesco*, Latin.] Tendency to milk.  
This lactescence does commonly ensue, when wine, being impregnated with gums, or other vegetable concretions, that abound with sulphureous corpuscles, fair water is suddenly poured upon the solution. *Boyle on Colours.*

LACTESCENT. *adj.* [*lactescens*, Latin.] Producing Milk.  
Amongst the pot-herbs are some lactescent plants, as lettuce and endive, which contain a wholesome juice. *Arbuth.*

LACTIFEROUS. *adj.* [*lac* and *fero*.] What conveys or brings milk.  
He makes the breasts to be nothing but glandules, made up of an infinite number of little knots, each whereof hath its excretory vessel, or lactiferous duct. *Ray on the Creation.*

LAD. *n. f.* [*leobe*, Saxon, which commonly signifies people, but sometimes, says Mr. Lye, a boy.]  
1. A boy; a stripling, in familiar language.  
We were  
Two lads, that thought there was no more behind,  
But such a day to-morrow as to-day,  
And to be boy eternal. *Shakesp. Winter's Tale.*  
The poor lad who wants knowledge, must set his invention on the rack, to say something where he knows nothing. *Locke.*  
Too far from the ancient forms of teaching several good grammarians have departed, to the great detriment of such lads as have been removed to other schools. *Watts.*

2. A boy, in pastoral language.  
For grief whereof the lad would after joy,  
But pin'd away in anguish, and self-will'd annoy. *Fa. Qu.*  
The shepherd lad,  
Whose offspring on the throne of Judah sat  
So many ages. *Milton's Par. Reg. b. ii. l. 439.*

LADDER. *n. f.* [*plajne*, Saxon.]  
1. A frame made with steps placed between two upright pieces.  
Whose compoſt is rotten, and cartied in time,  
And spread as it should be, thrif's ladder may clime. *Tyff.*  
Now streets grow throng'd, and busy as by day,  
Some run for buckets to the hallow'd quire;  
Some cut the pipes, and some the engines play,  
And some more bold mount ladders to the fire. *Dryden.*  
I saw a stage erected about a foot and a half from the ground, capable of holding four of the inhabitants with two or three ladders to mount it. *Gulliver's Travels.*